

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 02921 261550Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 NEA-10
ISO-00 L-03 EUR-12 /054 W
-----270108Z 126040 /12
R 261436Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5878
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2921

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, PFOR, UNESCO, IS
SUBJECT: UNESCO: JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS; DUE PROCESS INVESTIGATIVE
MECHANISM

REF: STATE 87475

1. WE DISCUSSED WITH EYTAN RONN, POLITICAL ADVISOR TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FORMER ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TO GENEVA, THE SUGGESTION THAT THE GOI INDIRECTLY INFORM UNESCO DIRECTOR GENERAL M'BOW THAT THE MAZAR EXCAVATIONS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED. RONN SAID HE WOULD GIVE THIS MATTER SOME CONSIDERATION AND DISCUSS IT WITH HIS COLLEAGUES AND SUPERIORS BUT HIS PERSONAL REACTION WAS THAT SUCH A PROPOSAL HAS LITTLE CHANCE OF ACCEPTANCE BY THE GOI.

2. RONN POINTED OUT THAT THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT HAS PLAYED NO PART AT ALL IN MAZAR'S EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES AND CANNOT BE SURE HOW LONG THE CURRENT STOP IN EXCAVATIONS WILL LAST. IT COULD NOT,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 02921 261550Z

THEREFORE, IN GOOD FAITH MAKE A STATEMENT THAT THE EXCAVATIONS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED.

3. MORE IMPORTANTLY, IF SUCH A STATEMENT WERE MADE, THE GO WOULD HAVE PUBLICLY TO CONFIRM OR DENY ITS ACCURACY. IT WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO ISRAELI PUBLIC OPINION, AND PROBABLY NOT TO

THE NEW CABINET, FOR ISRAEL TO TAKE A POSITION OF HAVING "TERINATED" AN ACTIVITY WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS ARGUED IS SUBJECT ONLY TO THE CONSTRAINTS OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM.

4. DURING THE SAME DISCUSSION, WE INFORMED RONN OF THE U.S. INITIATIVE REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MECHANISM FOR DEFUSING POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN UNESCO (AS SET FORTH IN STATE 65129 AND PARIS 11767). RONN SAID HE HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED OF OUR APPROACH AND HE TOOK CAREFUL NOTES.

5. REGARDING MBOW'S IDEA OF A STATEMENT OF HIS OWN THAT THE EXCAVATIONS HAVE STOPPED AND A REQUEST THAT THE GOI CONFIRM THIS (PARIS 11767), HE SAID HE FELT THIS WA NOT A REALISTIC POSSIBILITY. IT AMOUNTED TO THE SAME THING AS OUR PROPOSAL FOR AN INDIRECT MESSAGE BECAUSE EVENTUALLY THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT THE EXCAVATIONS HAD CEASED AND NO GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO DO THAT.
DUNNIGAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARCHEOLOGY, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TELAV02921
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770145-1092
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770417/aaaaaodz.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ef68c19c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 87475
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2687071
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNESCO: JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS; DUE PROCESS INVESTIGATIVE MECHANISM
TAGS: PORG, PFOR, IS, UNESCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ef68c19c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009